

January 8, 1998

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JAN 21 1998

FCC

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;  
Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 4, 1997, the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and The Utility Reform Network filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Federal Communications Commission's decision to eliminate the requirement for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service information regarding widely available services to the public. I support this Petition.

Being a consumer of telecommunications products & services I find it difficult to make an informed decision on which carrier I should choose. I found the Salestar Web Pricer helpful and informative in choosing my long distance carrier. Without public disclosure services like this would disappear.

In October 1996, the FCC adopted rules that prohibit long distance carriers from filing their tariffs for domestic long distance service with the FCC. At the same time, the Commission noted that consumers continue to need information about the rates, terms and conditions of long distance service. As a result, the FCC required carriers to make such information available to the public. In August 1997, the Commission inexplicably changed its position and eliminated the public disclosure requirement for mass market services even though no party requested such a change. Despite the FCC's elimination of the information disclosure requirement, a strong need for publicly available information regarding long distance services remains.

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I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,

Torey Golden

Torey Golden  
25 19<sup>th</sup> Street  
Richmond, CA. 94801

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FCC MAIL ROOM

January 14, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
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Thank You,

*Reginold A. Milton*

Reginold A. Milton  
80 Ora Way G-104  
San Francisco, CA 94131

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Thank You,

*Sharon Senzaki*

MS. SHARON SENZAKI  
576-47th Ave  
S.F. CA. 94131

# **COST CONTROL ASSOCIATES**

*Energy & Telecommunication Consultants*

134 Glen Street, Suite 200 - Glens Falls, New York 12801  
Phone 518-798-4437 Fax 518-798-1735

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for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service  
information regarding widely available services to the public.  
Cost Control Associates writes to support the Petition.

Cost Control Associates is a telecommunications consulting firm  
which provides telephone bill audit services and cost-savings  
recommendations to its commercial, municipal, and non-profit  
clients. We are independent from all telecommunications service  
providers and our only source of revenue is consulting fees  
billed to clients. We have extensive experience in reviewing and  
obtaining detailed rate information from telecommunications  
companies.

Cost Control Associates has on numerous occasions attempted to  
obtain accurate, reliable, and detailed rate information  
regarding telecommunications services directly from  
telecommunications companies. Our experience has shown that the  
information is difficult, if not impossible, to obtain. When the  
information is obtained, it is typically inaccurate and  
unreliable. In fact, price quotes obtained are often  
inconsistent depending on the representative at the telephone  
company that provides the information.

Recent examples of this difficulty were our attempts to obtain  
rate information from Frontier and MCI. Almost all 800 number  
customer service, sales and marketing representatives at these  
companies have little or no idea what services their companies  
offer or what their rates are. Several calls placed to the same

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
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Page 2

company, but to different representatives often result in obtaining discrepant rate information. Also, it is often difficult to obtain any pricing information in writing from telecommunications companies. If an experienced firm like Cost Control Associates (which knows the detailed questions to ask in order to obtain the information it needs) has problems obtaining the correct rate information from telephone companies, the probability that the average consumer will have better luck getting this information is extremely small.

It is for this reason that Cost Control Associates relies heavily on the rate information that is available via tariffs. If the practice of tariffing is to be abolished, not only will our firm be unable to obtain accurate, reliable and consistent rate information, but we will be incapable of making informed recommendations to our customers. Also, we will be unable to verify that our customers are being billed the correct rates. This may lead to unscrupulous billing practices by telecommunications companies. If these companies are not required to file tariffs and they are not required to disclose rate information to consumers, this will make our job impossible and the resulting effect will be detrimental to all consumers.

Cost Control Associates fully supports the Petition and urges the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Sincerely,



Keith Laake  
President

dkS



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1/10/07

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Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Ramirez", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Rob Ramirez

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Thank You,

  
Cathy Heich

5455 N. Sheridan Ave. #2804  
Chicago, IL 60640

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Thank You,

*Elizabeth A. Stone*  
ELIZABETH A. STONE  
135 TOWNSEND ST., #614  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107

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Thank You,



Marie-Florence Tieu  
1869 Nash Drive  
San Mateo, CA 94401



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I support the Petition for Further Reconsideration filed by the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,



ROMAN KALBAG  
1150 UNION ST #103  
SAN FRANCISCO  
CA 94109

January 15, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace; Implementation  
of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 4, 1997, the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and The Utility Reform Network filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) decision to eliminate the requirement for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service information regarding widely available telecommunication services to the public. I support this Petition.

Being a consumer of telecommunications products and services I find it difficult to make an informed decision as to which carrier I should choose. I found the Salestar Web Pricer helpful and informative in choosing my long distance carrier. Since this information is gathered from documents obtained because of the public disclosure requirements, without such information available services like this would disappear.

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Thank You,

JOEL Romo

2455 47TH AVE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107

A large, stylized handwritten signature, likely of Joel Romo, spanning across the bottom of the page.

January 15, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

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I support the Petition for Further Reconsideration filed by the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Fortus', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrea Fortus

5835D El Dorado  
El Cerrito CA 94530

January 8, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;  
Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

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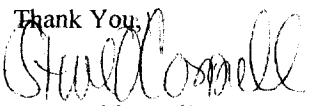
Consumer long distance services, I rely on publicly available pricing information in order to make informed decisions about the telecommunications services I need. As even the FCC recognized in its October 1996 order, a public disclosure requirement promotes the public interest by making it easier for consumers to compare service offerings. Thousand of long distance calling plans and services are now available to the public. If consumers are to be able to make any meaningful distinctions between these plans, they must have access to detailed and accurate information regarding the plans. The only way to ensure that consumers have access to the plans that they are interested in, as opposed to the particular plan that a carrier happens to be promoting at a particular time, is through an FCC-mandated public disclosure requirement. The FCC should not deny consumers access to this important information.

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I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You,  
  
Steve O'Connell  
1311 Center Ave.  
Martinez, CA 94533



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

January 14, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace;  
Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

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